

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 01348 221846Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 AF-10  
SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 /069 W  
-----118968 221903Z /42

P R 221745Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4818

INFO AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

COMUSFORAZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 1348

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PO

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: TWA ACCESS TO LAJES

REF: A) STATE 42528 B) LISBON 1046 C) LISBON 932 D) LISBON 878

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS FEBRUARY 17, TAP  
PRESIDENT MONTEIRO DA SILVA STATED TAP IS NOT REPEAT NOT  
OPPOSED TO TWA OPERATING AT LAJES. SILVA MADE IT CLEAR, HOWEVER,  
THAT TAP SUPPORTS GOP LEGAL POSITION THAT SUCH ACCESS IS A  
PRIVILEGE RATHER THAN A RIGHT; TAP THEREFORE EXPECTS A REASON-  
ABLE QUID.

2. ECON COUNSELOR DISPUTED GOP LEGAL INTERPRETATION OF U.S.-  
PORTUGUESE BILATERAL AND NOTED THAT RECENT EFFORTS HAD SOUGHT  
TO FIND AN INFORMAL SOLUTION TO THE IMPASSE. SILVA REPLIED  
THAT HE HAD BEEN DISAPPOINTED WITH TWA'S NARROW OFFER OF  
JANUARY 30 (REF D). TWA, HE ADDED, CAN SURELY COME UP WITH  
ALTERNATIVE QUID IF BLOCKED SEAT ARRANGEMENT IS NOT VIABLE.  
SILVA STATED THAT BLOCKED SEAT ARRANGEMENT IS NOT REALLY OF  
SIGNIFICANT INTEREST TO TAP, BUT IS ONE OF SEVERAL  
ALTERNATIVE QUIDS. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT AL-  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LISBON 01348 221846Z

TERNATIVES HE HAD IN MIND, SILVA IMPLIED THESE ARE RELATED  
TO TAP'S U.S. OPERATIONS. IN THE INTEREST OF REOPENING  
DIALOGUE, SILVA SAID TAP WILL, IN NEXT FEW DAYS, INVITE  
TWA NEW YORK OFFICIALS TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS IN LISBON.

3. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF REF A, ECON COUNSELOR DISCUSSED  
SUBJECT WITH DR. PAULO ENNES, DIRECTOR OF BILATERAL

AFFAIRS IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. ENNES STATED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED ONLY SKETCHY REPORT ON TWA MEETING WITH TAP. HE EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE DISAPPOINTMENT THAT AIRLINES HAD FAILED TO PROGRESS IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS. ECON COUNSELOR, SUGGESTING THAT ISSUE COULD BECOME SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM IF A SOLUTION IS NOT PROMPTLY FOUND, SUGGESTED THAT TWA BE GRANTED IMMEDIATE AUTHORIZATION TO INITIATE OPERATIONS AT LAJES. ENNES, WHILE DEMONSTRATING CONCERN, FAILED TO REACT TO THIS SUGGESTION. HE EVIDENTLY WAS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE ISSUE. EMBASSY PLANS TO CONTACT HIM AGAIN BEFORE THE END OF THIS WEEK.

4. LOCAL TWA REP PLANS TO VISIT AZORES BEGINNING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23. DURING COURSE OF HIS VISIT, HE INTENDS TO GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE TO REFUTE REPEATED AZOREAN PRESS ACCOUNTS CLAIMING THAT TWA HAS NO DESIRE TO OPERATE AT LAJES. ECON COUNSELOR ENCOURAGED HIM TO STICK TO THE FACTS, AVOID EXCESSIVE INTERPRETATIVE COMMENTS, AND, ABOVE ALL, NOT TO BE CAUGHT IN THE CURRENT ARGUMENT BETWEEN THE CENTRAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS ON THIS ISSUE.

5. COMMENT: TAP CLEARLY LACKS INCENTIVE TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH TWA. ABSENT TAP WILLINGNESS, GOP IS UNLIKELY TO ACT DECISIVELY. EMBASSY HOPES TWA WILL RESPOND POSITIVELY TO TAP'S FORTHCOMING INVITATION TO SEARCH FOR SUITABLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LISBON 01348 221846Z

QUID. IF OUR READING OF MONTEIRO DA SILVA IS CORRECT, TAP WILL ENTER TALKS GENUINELY INTERESTED IN REACHING AN AGREEMENT, BUT ONLY IF IT RECEIVES SOMETHING IN RETURN. WE ARE NOT PARTICULARLY SANGUINE THAT AIRLINES WILL ACHIEVE AGREEMENT, ESPECIALLY SINCE TWA BECOMING IMPATIENT WITH WHAT IT REGARDS AS TAP DELAYING TACTICS. IF USG TRULY WISHES TO PRESS TWA ACCESS TO LAJES, IT MAY HAVE TO TAKE SOME ACTION TO DEMONSTRATE ITS DETERMINATION AND TO INDICATE TO GOP THAT FAILURE TO REACH ACCORD WILL HAVE AN ECONOMIC COST.  
OKUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LISBON01348  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780082-0631  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LISBON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780229/aaaaayaz.tel  
**Line Count:** 105  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** d7242bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 42528, 78 LISBON 1046, 78 LISBON 932, 78 LISBON 878  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3523968  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CIVAIR: TWA ACCESS TO LAJES  
**TAGS:** EAIR, PO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d7242bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014